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NVS-215

January 30, 2003

2003 FEB 20 P 1: 25

OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

Ms. Kathleen C. DeMeter, Director
Office of Defects
U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Admin.
400 - 7th Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

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Dear Ms. DeMeter:

Winnebago Industries, Inc. submits the following report pursuant to Part 573 of the NHTSA regulations. The numbered paragraphs below correspond to those found at Part 573.5(c).

1. Winnebago Industries, Inc.
605 W. Crystal Lake Road
Forest City, IA 50436
2. The motor vehicles potentially missing a spare tire support are on certain 2003 model year Winnebago Sightseer™/Itasca Sunova® (Model D30B) motor homes built on a Ford® chassis. These motor homes were manufactured January 31, 2002 through September 30, 2002. The vehicles were identified using production records showing models and VINs.
3. The total number of vehicles potentially missing a spare tire support is: 176.
4. 100 percent of these vehicles may have a missing spare tire support.
5. The spare tire installation may be missing a component when it left the factory. A plate, which is used to support the spare tire, was inadvertently left off a number of D30B motor homes built on a Ford chassis. Without this additional support, the spare tire may fall off the vehicle resulting in property damage and possibly personal injury.
6. Winnebago Industries, Inc. discovered the missing spare tire support as a result of our own monitoring of field support data by our Customer Service Department.
7. N/A.
8. Winnebago Industries, Inc. will remedy this situation by inspecting the spare tire mount and, if necessary, install a new support plate. Winnebago Industries, Inc. estimates the dealer letter will be mailed on or about February 14, 2003. The owner letter will be mailed two weeks later.
9. Enclosed is a copy of the dealer letter in draft form.

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10. Enclosed is a copy of the owner letter in draft form.

11. The recall documents will carry the Winnebago Industries, Inc. Number 87.

Should you have questions regarding this information, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Dale Jordal
Product Safety Administrator

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Enclosure

c: Ray Beebe
Steve Evenson
Marv Nieman
Donna Bindel

TO: Winnebago Industries, Inc. Dealers

SUBJECT: Campaign #87 - D30B (Ford Chassis) Spare Tire Support

The National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act, as amended, provides that each vehicle which is subject to a recall campaign of this type must be adequately repaired within a reasonable time after the owner has tendered it for repair. A failure to adequately repair within 60 days after tender of a vehicle is prima facie evidence of failure to repair within a reasonable time.

If the condition is not adequately repaired within a reasonable time, the owners may be entitled to an identical or reasonably equivalent vehicle at no charge or to a refund of the purchase price less a reasonable allowance for depreciation.

To avoid having to provide these burdensome solutions, every effort must be made to promptly schedule an appointment with each owner and to repair their vehicle as soon as possible. As you will see in reading the enclosed copy of the letter which is being sent to owners, the owners are being instructed to contact Winnebago Industries, Inc. if you do not remedy the condition within five days of the mutually agreed upon service date. If the condition is not remedied within a reasonable time, they are instructed on how to contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

REASON FOR THIS RECALL

Winnebago Industries, Inc. has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2003 Winnebago Sightseer™/Itasca Sunova® (Model D30B) motor homes. These motor homes were manufactured January 31, 2002 through September 30, 2002. The spare tire installation may be missing a component when it left the factory. A plate which is used to support the spare tire was inadvertently left off a number of D30B motor homes built on a Ford chassis. Without this additional support, the spare tire may fall off the vehicle resulting in property damage and possibly personal injury.

OWNER NOTIFICATION

Owners will be notified of this campaign on their vehicles by Winnebago Industries, Inc. For all units in your inventory, the notification will be mailed to you. **DO NOT DELIVER TO A CUSTOMER ANY SUBJECT UNIT UNTIL CORRECTIVE ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN.** Enclosed is a list of vehicles shipped to you.

DEALER CAMPAIGN RESPONSIBILITY

Dealers are to service all vehicles subject to this campaign at no charge to owners regardless of mileage, age of vehicle, or ownership from this time forward.

Whenever a vehicle subject to this campaign is taken into new or used vehicle inventory, or it is in your dealership for service in the future, you should take the steps necessary to be sure the campaign correction has been made before reselling or releasing the vehicle. Owners of vehicles recently sold from your new vehicle inventory are to be contacted by the dealer, and arrangements made to make the required correction according to instructions contained in this campaign.

MEMORANDUM

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INSTRUCTION TO PERFORM CAMPAIGN #87**Affected Models:**

Certain 2003 D30B models built January 31, 2002 through September 30, 2002.

Repair Procedure:

Refer to instruction sheet for replacement of new spare tire support.

Parts Information:

Order the following Parts Kit from Winnebago Industries using the WIN NET system. You will be placing the order as a recall order (see WIN NET Manual for new recall order type). You will need the recall dealer number and the Winnebago Industries serial number of the affected vehicle to place the order.

Dealer Number: 7657

Part Number: RC7657-03-787

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Part Description</u>
1	Instruction Sheet
1	Plate Support
1	Bolt
1	Washer

REIMBURSEMENT

When the service has been completed, file the repair order that has the labor amount and labor operation number listed below. The repair order must be properly signed by both dealer and owner before it is submitted to Winnebago Industries.

	<u>OPERATION NUMBER</u>	<u>TIME ALLOWANCE</u>
INSPECTION ONLY:	24870101	.4 hr.
-OR-		
INSPECTION AND REPAIR:	24870201	.6 hr.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Winnebago Industries, Inc.
Forest City, Iowa 50436

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Enclosures

**RE: BODY SERIAL
CHASSIS SERIAL**

Dear Owner:

This notice is being sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Our records indicate that you have purchased a vehicle with the serial number which appears above.

REASON FOR THIS RECALL

Winnebago Industries, Inc. has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2003 Winnebago Sightseer/Itasca Sunova® (Model D30B) motor homes. These motor homes were manufactured January 31, 2002 through September 30, 2002. The spare tire installation may be missing a component when it left the factory. A plate, which is used to support the spare tire, was inadvertently left off a number of D30B motor homes built on a Ford® chassis. Without this additional support, the spare tire may fall off the vehicle resulting in property damage and possibly personal injury.

WHAT WE WILL DO

Winnebago Industries, Inc. dealers will inspect the spare tire mount and, if necessary, install a new support plate at no charge to you.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

Please contact your Winnebago Industries, Inc. dealer immediately to arrange for an appointment. Please allow sufficient time for your dealer to obtain the kit for this recall. The labor time necessary to perform this correction will be approximately one hour. Please allow time for the dealer to process your vehicle.

Winnebago Industries, Inc. dealers are best equipped to obtain parts and provide service to ensure your vehicle is corrected as promptly as possible. HOWEVER, if you take your vehicle to the dealer on the agreed date and he does not service this condition on that date or within five days, we recommend you contact Winnebago Industries, Inc., Attn.: Owner Relations Representative (641-585-6939). If you are still unable to obtain such installation without charge to you and within a reasonable time, you may contact the Administrator, N.H.T.S.A., Washington, DC 20590, or call toll free, Auto Safety Hot Line, 888-327-4236.

Presentation of this letter to the service center will assist in making the necessary correction to your vehicle in the shortest possible time. If you have sold or traded your vehicle, please let us know by completing the postage-paid owner reply card and returning it to us.

We are sorry to cause you this inconvenience; however, we have taken this action in the interest of your safety and continued satisfaction with our products. This letter does not constitute an acknowledgment of legal liability.

Winnebago Industries, Inc.
Forest City, Iowa 50436

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Enclosure